

1.941
S8 Ag 8

NORTH CAROLINA



COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

LIBRARY
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD
AUG 17 1950
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

QUESTIONS PERTINENT TO THIS ISSUE

1. COMPARE THE 1950 ACREAGE OF COTTON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.
2. WHAT IS THE CURRENT ESTIMATE OF FLUE-CURED TOBACCO PRODUCTION?
3. WHAT IS THE EXPECTED YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF WHEAT?
4. WHY HAVE CORN YIELDS INCREASED?
5. HOW MUCH MILK WAS PRODUCED ON NORTH CAROLINA FARMS DURING JUNE?
6. ARE FRUIT PRODUCTION PROSPECTS BELOW OR ABOVE LAST YEAR?
7. HOW DOES THE 1950 ACREAGE OF PEANUTS COMPARE WITH LAST YEAR?
8. WHAT IS THE EXPECTED HAY YIELD FOR 1950?

No. 65

RALEIGH, N. C.

JULY 15, 1950

JULY 1, 1950 GENERAL FARM REPORT

GENERAL SITUATION

With the exception of localized areas, weather and soil moisture conditions during June were favorable for the growth and maturity of crops. The condition of most crops as of July 1 compared favorably with previous years. Rains during late June relieved dry soil conditions in most of the localized areas.

Growers reported the condition of corn as of July 1 to be the best for that date since 1925. Part of the early corn crop was planted under inadequate soil moisture conditions and replanting requirements were probably above average. Growers planting corn the latter part of April or later have normal or better stands. The earlier planted corn is now in the tasseling stage and at a critical point in soil moisture requirements. Present indications point to an increase in the acreage seeded with hybrid seed.

The cotton crop was seeded under adverse weather conditions in many areas and replanting requirements were greater than usual. Following the seeding of the crop cool weather further reduced stands and growers replanted for the second time or seeded the acreage to another crop such as peanuts, corn or soybeans. Two successive mild winters have resulted in the worst boll weevil infestation in years.

Tobacco growers found it necessary to stagger the transplanting of plants owing to the shortage on individual farms. In most instances growers were successful in obtaining plants in their immediate area and the shortage of plants did not prove as serious as originally expected. Tobacco has grown and matured rather rapidly during recent weeks and indications as of July 1 point to average or better yields.

Harvesting of wheat, oats, barley and rye is about complete. Present indications point to about average yields for these crops.

Harvesting of the commercial Irish potato crop is nearing completion with Government purchases accounting for a large portion of all sales.

JULY 1 PROSPECTS INDICATE RECORD CORN YIELD AND PRODUCTION

The 1950 corn crop in North Carolina is estimated to produce 77,426,000 bushels. This estimate is based on reports from growers on the condition of their crop as of July 1. A crop of this size would be the largest of record and exceeds the present 1949 record crop by almost two million bushels. The estimated 1950 crop is 39.8 percent more than the 10-year average production of 55,385,000 bushels.

The July 1 estimate of 35.5 bushels per acre, if realized, would also be the highest of record and compares with 35.0 bushels in 1949 and the 10-year (1939-48), average yield of 24.2 bushels per acre.

A total of 2,181,000 acres of corn for harvest is currently estimated for North Carolina. This is 22,000 or 1 percent more than the 2,159,000 acres for harvest in 1949. The 1950 acreage is 117,000 or 5.1 percent less than the 1939-48 average acreage for harvest.

(Continued on Page 2)

TOBACCO PROSPECTS GOOD-ACREAGE UP TWO PERCENT

North Carolina's 1950 flue-cured tobacco crop is estimated at 781,440,000 pounds, 7 percent above the 731,530,000 pounds produced last year and 12 percent greater than the ten-year average production of 696,707,000 pounds.

Preparation and planting of the 1950 tobacco seed beds was done under ideal conditions (the period December through February being unusually mild and open) with seeding of plant beds in most sections completed about a week earlier than usual. However, dry weather, a few "cold snaps" blue mold and insects contributed to a set-back in early development of plants and it appeared as if plants were going to be short again in 1950. Luckily, the early scare of inadequate plants did not materialize and the full acreage was set. The season was unusually good for transplanting and in most counties a healthy supply of plants were available. Generally, weather

(Continued on Page 4)

MODERN DAIRY FARM IN PIEDMONT NORTH CAROLINA



RECORD CORN YIELD INDICATED

(Continued)

The prospective record corn yield can be attributed primarily to (1) increased use of hybrid seed; (2) improved cultural and fertilization practices; and (3) selection of land better adapted to the production of corn.

The Nation's 1950 corn crop is estimated at 3,175,602,000 bushels, which is 6 percent less than 1949 production, but 9.5 percent greater than the 1939-48 average production. The average U. S. yield per acre is estimated at 38.2 bushels per acre.

SORGHUM ACREAGE LARGEST OF RECORD

North Carolina farmers indicate they will harvest 49,000 acres of sorghums for all purposes during 1950. This is the largest crop of record and 9 percent above the previous record of 45,000 acres harvested in 1949. The current estimate is 75 percent more than the 1939-48 average of 28,000 acres.

This increase in acreage came about as a result of 1950 allotments which reduced the cotton acreage and placed the 1950 wheat crop under acreage control thereby providing an incentive for larger increases in sorghum plantings.

MILK PRODUCTION CONTINUES AT RECORD LEVEL

Milk production on farms in North Carolina during the month of June totaled 159 million pounds. This was 3 million pounds above the June record a year ago and 1 million above production for May this year. The increase in total production this year was brought about through a rapid increase in the number of milk cows on farms and not because of increased milk production per cow.

During June there were an estimated 374,000 milk cows on farms compared with 357,000 for the same month a year ago. Milk production per cow for the month averaged 424 pounds, sharply under the 438 pounds produced in June a year ago, but 2 pounds above the average for May of this year.

The lower level of production per cow this year compared to that of 1949 may be explained in part by the continued high cost of feed concentrates which probably has resulted in rations somewhat lower in concentrates with a greater part of feeding coming from pastures. Pasture condition showed little change from the previous month but was considerably under that of a year ago.

SOYBEAN ACREAGE UP 6 PERCENT

As of July 1 total acreage of soybeans planted alone for all purposes in North Carolina is estimated at 403,000 acres. This is 6 percent larger than in 1949 and is the third largest acreage of record, being exceeded only by the 495,000 acres planted in 1943 and the 434,000 acres planted in 1942.

Reports from growers indicate that they will harvest a total of 286,000 (equivalent solid) acres of soybeans for beans this year.

TOTAL HAY ACREAGE LOWEST SINCE 1942

North Carolina's total hay acreage as of July 1 is estimated at 1,181,000 acres. This is about 2 percent less than in 1949, 4 percent below the 1939-48 average, and the lowest total hay acreage since 1942. With the exception of a slight increase in 1945 and 1947 hay acreage has been steadily declining since 1943.

NORTH CAROLINA COTTON ACREAGE LOWEST SINCE 1872

The acreage of cotton in cultivation in North Carolina on July 1, 1950, is estimated at 570,000 acres. This is 34.4 percent less than the 869,000 acres in cultivation July 1, 1949, and 24.0 percent below the 10-year (1939-48) average of 750,000 acres. This is the smallest acreage devoted to cotton in this state since 1872.

Much of the 1950 acreage was planted under unfavorable conditions which resulted in very poor stands. An extremely dry April delayed planting and prevented proper seed germination. Cool, wet weather following the month of April further re-

WHEAT YIELDS BELOW AVERAGE

North Carolina's 1949 wheat crop improved slightly as harvesting operations were completed with conditions as of July 1 pointing to a production of 6,345,000 bushels. This is about 560,000 bushels above production in 1949 but 464,000 bushels less than the 1939-48 average production.

The acreage for harvest is estimated at 423,000 acres, about 5 percent less than 445,000 acres harvested in 1949 and 6 percent less than the 1939-48 average of 450,000 acres. Conditions on July 1 point to a yield of 15 bushels of wheat per harvested acre, two bushels per acre above the 1949 average yield, but .1 of a bushel less than the ten-year average.

Harvested yields are turning out slightly better than expected; however, the effects of unfavorable weather earlier in the season were not completely overcome.

For the Nation a production of 957 million bushels is indicated for all wheat as of July 1. This is 17 percent less than the 1,146 million bushels produced last year.

duced stands and slowed growth. Two successive unusually milk winters resulted in an extremely large winter carryover and emergence of boll weevils this spring. Unfavorable weather and the presence of large numbers of boll weevils brought about more than the usual amount of abandonment prior to July 1.

For the Nation as a whole the acreage in cultivation July 1 is estimated at 19,032,000 acres -- 31.3 percent less than the acreage in cultivation July 1, 1949 and 13 percent below the 10-year average acreage in cultivation on this date.

COTTON: ACREAGE IN CULTIVATION ON
JULY 1, 1950 AND PRIOR YEARS, ALL STATES

STATE	* 10-YR. AVERAGE ABANDONMENT 1940-49 (PERCENT)	ACREAGE IN CULTIVATION JULY 1			
		AVERAGE 1939-48 (000)	1949 (000)	1950 (000)	PERCENT OF 1949
MISSOURI.....	1.8	408	604	440	72.8
VIRGINIA.....	1.5	30	33	26	78.8
N. CAROLINA.....	1.1	750	869	570	65.6
S. CAROLINA.....	0.7	1,122	1,283	875	68.2
GEORGIA.....	0.7	1,559	1,618	1,170	72.3
FLORIDA.....	2.6	45	51	34	66.7
TENNESSEE.....	0.8	697	845	650	76.9
ALABAMA.....	0.7	1,675	1,825	1,330	72.9
MISSISSIPPI.....	2.2	2,469	2,859	2,085	72.9
ARKANSAS.....	2.0	1,985	2,616	1,720	65.7
LOUISIANA.....	1.9	980	1,077	775	72.0
OKLAHOMA.....	3.8	1,492	1,344	1,050	78.1
TEXAS.....	2.3	7,887	10,968	7,200	65.5
NEW MEXICO.....	2.2	131	323	189	58.5
ARIZONA.....	0.5	210	401	290	72.3
CALIFORNIA.....	0.5	402	963	614	63.8
OTHER STATES...	2.7	18	20	14	70.0
UNITED STATES..	1.9	21,859	27,719	19,032	68.7

* Natural causes

PEACH PROSPECTS SECOND LOWEST

Based on grower's reports as of July 1, the outlook for peaches both commercial and non-commercial, in North Carolina is the second smallest crop of record. Production for 1950 is currently estimated at 438,000 bushels or about one-third as large as the 1,428,000 bushels produced last year and one-fifth as large as the 1939-48 average of 2,167,000 bushels.

APPLE PROSPECTS FAVORABLE

North Carolina's commercial apple crop was estimated at 960,000 bushels as of July 1. A crop of this size would be about twice as large as last year's short crop of 448,000 bushels but two percent below the ten year average of 982,000 bushels.

SWEETPOTATO ACREAGE INCREASES

The downward trend in sweetpotato acreage in North Carolina was reversed in 1949 and there has been a further expansion in acreage this year. The 6,318,000 bushel crop now indicated is 7.5 percent larger than last year's production of 5,876,000 bushels but 15 percent below the 1939-48 average of 7,403,000 bushels.

Acreage for harvest is currently estimated at 54,000, 4 percent above the 52,000 acres harvested last year, but 23 percent less than the 1939-48 average of 70,000 acres. With acreage allotments tending to reduce the cotton, tobacco and peanut acreage, growers in North Carolina are turning to sweetpotatoes as an alternative cash crop.

Average yields per acre as of July 1 were estimated at 117 bushels, 4 bushels above 1949 yields and 10 bushels above average.

PEANUT ACREAGE UP TWO PERCENT

The 1950 acreage of peanuts planted alone for all purposes in North Carolina, is estimated at 253,000 acres -- about 2 percent above the 248,000 acres planted for all purposes last year. This is about 4 percent more than the acreage intended in March due largely to increased allotments of acreage for picking and threshing and regulations permitting farmers to grow peanuts for oil in excess of their acreage allotments.

Final estimates for the 1949 crop places the acreage picked and threshed for nuts at 236,000 acres. The average yield per acre was estimated at 1,030 pounds, giving a total production of 243,080,000 pounds.

Weather conditions were very favorable at planting time and the crop is up to good stands except in scattered localities where rains prevented full germination.

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES, ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS 1949 AND INDICATED 1950

CROPS	ACREAGE			YIELD			PRODUCTION		
	AVERAGE 1939-48 #	HARVESTED 1949	INDICATED 1950	AVERAGE 1939-48	1949	INDICATED 1950	AVERAGE 1939-48	REVISED 1949	INDICATED 1950
- THOUSAND -									
CORN, ALL.....	2,298	2,159	2,181	24.2	35.0	35.5	55,385	75,565	77,426
WHEAT, ALL.....	450	445	423	15.1	13.0	15.0	6,809	5,785	6,345
OATS.....	308	370	388	27.0	30.0	29.0	8,417	11,100	11,252
BARLEY.....	34	36	37	24.1	25.0	23.0	822	900	851
RYE.....	36	19	20	11.0	10.5	12.0	389	200	240
TOBACCO, ALL.....	663,110	632,669	641,570	4,510	5,005	5,300	709,014	747,082	797,240
TYPE 11.....	254,400	240,000	247,000	994	1,070	1,180	254,833	256,800	291,460
TYPE 12.....	322,700	304,000	307,000	1,110	1,245	1,280	358,674	378,480	392,960
TYPE 13.....	76,200	77,000	77,000	1,088	1,250	1,260	83,200	96,250	97,020
TYPE 31.....	9,060	10,800	10,000	1,318	1,440	1,580	12,307	15,552	15,800
COTTON.....	750	869	570	-	-	-	-	-	-
IRISH POTATOES, ALL.....	82	61	60	114	129	151	9,302	7,869	9,060
SWEET POTATOES.....	70	52	54	107	113	117	7,403	5,876	6,318
SOYBEANS, FOR BEANS.....	222	264	286	-	-	-	-	-	-
SOYBEANS, GROWN ALONE.....	382	380	403	-	-	-	-	-	-
COWPEAS, GROWN ALONE.....	120	57	57	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEANUTS, GROWN ALONE.....	297	248	253	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEANUTS, INTERPLANTED.....	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEANUTS, PICKED & THRESHED.....	280	236	-	1,138	1,030	-	315,847	243,080	-
HAY, ALL.....	1,229	1,205	1,181	.99	1.16	1.10	1,219	1,395	1,299
CLOVER & TIMOTHY.....	77	95	86	1.14	1.25	1.20	88	119	103
ALFALFA HAY.....	14	51	60	208	2.50	2.45	31	128	147
LESPEDEZA HAY.....	460	498	483	1.08	1.20	1.05	499	598	507
PASTURE, CONDITION.....	-	-	-	79	85	87	-	-	-
PEACHES, ALL.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,167	1,428	438
APPLES, COMMERCIAL.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	982	448	960
PEARS.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	280	130	128
GRAPES.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,250	4,500	5,200
SORGHUMS, FOR GRAIN.....	28	45	49	-	-	-	-	-	-
UNITED STATES									
CORN, ALL.....	88,007	86,735	83,091	32.9	38.9	38.2	2,900,932	3,377,790	3,175,602
WHEAT, ALL.....	42,895	55,453	43,104	17.5	16.3	16.7	758,821	901,668	720,545
OATS.....	38,762	40,560	42,765	32.8	32.6	32.6	1,274,474	1,322,924	1,394,772
BARLEY.....	12,858	9,879	11,233	24.2	24.1	23.6	310,668	236,104	264,726
RYE.....	2,674	1,558	1,852	12.0	12.0	11.8	32,155	18,697	21,891
TOBACCO, ALL.....	1,649,600	1,630,300	1,595,800	1,073	1,209	1,211	1,777,945	1,970,376	1,932,146
TOBACCO, FLUE-CURED.....	969,380	935,400	954,400	1,048	1,191	1,205	1,020,200	1,114,508	1,150,410
COTTON *.....	21,899	27,719	19,032	-	-	-	-	-	-
IRISH POTATOES, ALL.....	2,654.2	1,901.3	1,826.5	154.6	211.4	213.8	403,284	401,962	390,431
SWEET POTATOES.....	683.3	541.9	584.1	90.8	100.1	99.1	61,786	54,232	57,892
SOYBEANS, FOR BEANS.....	8,764	9,912	12,937	-	-	-	-	-	-
SOYBEANS, GROWN ALONE.....	2,241	1,177	1,152	-	-	-	-	-	-
COWPEAS, ALONE.....	2,580	2,332	-	687	804	-	1,950,690	1,875,825	-
PEANUTS, PICKED & THRESHED.....	74,470	72,835	75,686	1.35	1.36	1.37	100,344	99,305	103,498
HAY, ALL.....	14,896	17,288	18,254	2.20	2.23	2.16	32,775	38,546	39,376
ALFALFA.....	21,842	19,274	21,098	1.36	1.28	1.35	29,864	24,657	28,580
CLOVER & TIMOTHY.....	-	-	-	85	85	85	-	-	-
PASTURE, CONDITION.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	70,090	74,818	55,512
PEACHES.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	109,408	133,742	119,180
APPLES, COMMERCIAL.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,295	36,404	28,488
PEARS.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,776,885	2,662,100	2,748,100
GRAPES.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SORGHUMS, FOR GRAIN.....	15,550	11,490	15,060	-	-	-	-	-	-

* Includes Government purchases from unharvested acres in 1948.
500 lb. gross wt. bales.

FARM REPORT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Raleigh, N. C.

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$300
(PMGC)

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

FORM BAE-A-7-50-8,500
PERMIT No. 1001

Compiled by authority of the
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
S. R. Newell, Assistant Chief
and published by the
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Statistics
L.F. Ballentine, Commissioner of Agriculture

Released semi-monthly through the
Crop Reporting Service at Raleigh
Frank Parker, Statistician in Charge
Donald B. Jones, Statistical Editor

PRIMARILY FOR DISTRIBUTION TO
CROP REPORTERS AND AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

ORIGINAL INFORMATION DIRECT FROM
FARMERS AND OTHER LOCAL SOURCES

LIBRARY

U. S. DEPT. AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JULY 15, 1950

FARM REPORT

PAGE 4

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER DOWN

Commercial slaughter of livestock in North Carolina during May was down 23.7 percent (total liveweight for all species) from that of April this year. The greatest decline was in hogs slaughtered which was 50.6 percent lower than in April and 41.4 percent less than in May, 1949. Total liveweight of cattle slaughtered was up 8.2 percent from the previous month but was not enough to offset the decline in hogs slaughtered.

NORTH CAROLINA LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

TYPE	MAY				JANUARY - MAY TOTAL			
	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVELWEIGHT		NUMBER SLAUGHTERED		TOTAL LIVELWEIGHT	
	1949 a/	1950	1949 a/	1950	1949 a/	1950	1949 a/	1950
	THOUS. HEAD		THOUS. LBS.		THOUS. HEAD		THOUS. LBS.	
CATTLE....	5.8	6.5	4,698	5,345	30.7	31.3	24,701	25,815
CALVES....	5.9	5.3	933	870	36.5	25.5	5,943	4,031
SHEEP & LAMBS....	.1	.1	8	8	.5	.4	45	32
HOGS.....	25.0	28.0	5,654	3,313	137.0	154.0	30,398	33,013

a/ Revised

TOBACCO PROSPECTS (Continued)

conditions have been very favorable, resulting in good growth. However, heavy rains since July 1 have, no doubt, caused some damage, yet it is impossible at this time to estimate possible losses caused by rains and hail during the past two weeks.

The total indicated acreage of all flue-cured tobacco types is 631,000 acres, 2 percent above the 621,000 acres harvested last year, but 3 percent below the 10-year average of 653,300 acres.

Prospects as of July 1 on all flue-cured types point to the second highest yields of record. It is estimated that the average yield for all flue-cured types will be 1,238 pounds per acre, only 1 pound less than the 1948 record high.

Prospects for the Burley Crop (Type 31) is estimated at 15.8 million pounds, as compared to 1949 production of 15.5 million pounds and the 1939-48 average of 12.3 million pounds. The 1950 acreage for all Burley tobacco is placed at 10,000 acres, or 800 acres less than last year.

JUNE WEATHER SUMMARY

Rainfall was adequate and occurred at regular intervals in most areas of North Carolina during June. Portions of the Central Piedmont and mountains were about the only sections reporting less than normal rainfall amounts for the month.

Readings in the upper 90's were common from the 23rd to the 28th with 100 degrees or higher reached on a few days at some places in the southern Coastal Plains.

Air from the northern and central

parts of the nation was able to enter the state several times, principally during the first half of the month accompanied by fair skies and cooler temperatures.

For the entire month, temperatures averaged above normal with the greatest departures almost 3 degrees reported from the western half of the state. Locally heavy showers accompanied by severe hail storms occurred in the eastern half of North Carolina on the 19th and 29th.

NORTH CAROLINA - INCHES OF RAINFALL DURING JUNE, 1950

